

National Ambient Air Quality Standards

The Environmental Protection Agency has promulgated primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for six criteria pollutants (carbon monoxide, nitrogen dioxide, particulate matter, ozone, sulfur dioxide, and lead). Primary standards are adopted to protect public health (the health of "sensitive" populations such as asthmatics, children, and the elderly). Secondary standards are adopted to protect public welfare (protection against decreased visibility, damage to animals, crops, vegetation, and buildings). Arizona has adopted the federal NAAQS as the state Ambient Air Quality standards as well:

State and Federal Ambient Air Quality Standards			
Pollutant	Averaging Time	Primary Standard	Secondary Standard
<u>Carbon Monoxide (CO)</u> [http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/co/index.html] in parts per million (ppm)	1-hr	35	--
	8-hr	9	--
<u>Nitrogen Dioxide (NO₂)</u> [http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/nox/index.html] in parts per million (ppm)	Annual	0.053	0.053
<u>Particulate Matter (PM₁₀)</u> [http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/pm/index.html] in micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m ³)	24-hr	150	150
	Annual	50	50
<u>Particulate Matter (PM_{2.5})</u> [http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/pm/index.html] in micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m ³)	24-hr	65	65
	Annual	15	15
<u>Ozone</u> [http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/ozone/index.html] in parts per million (ppm)	1-hr	0.12	0.12
	8-hr	0.08	0.08
<u>Sulfur Dioxide (SO₂)</u> [http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/so2/index.html] In parts per million (ppm)	3-hr	---	0.5
	24-hr	0.14	---
	Annual	0.03	---
<u>Lead (Pb)</u> [http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/lead/index.html] in micrograms per cubic meter (µg/m ³)	Calendar Quarter	1.5	1.5

On July 18, 1997, EPA published revisions for two standards, ozone and particulate matter, to ensure a more effective and efficient protection of public health and the environment (62 FR 38651 [<http://frwebgate6.access.gpo.gov/cgi-bin/waisgate.cgi?WAISdocID=547100179571+16+1+0&WALSaction=retrieve>]). These revised standards are an 8-hour ozone standard of 0.08 parts per million, a 24-hour PM_{2.5} (particulate matter with a diameter of 2.5 microns or smaller) standard of 65 micrograms per cubic meter and an annual PM_{2.5} standard of 15 micrograms per cubic meter. EPA is currently developing implementation guidance for states to use as they develop the necessary state implementation plans for the new standards.

For more information regarding the health and welfare effects of the criteria pollutants, ADEQ has compiled an easy-to-read table [<http://www.adeq.state.az.us/enviro/air/plan/health.html>], or go to the EPA Web site for criteria pollutants at www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/6poll.html [<http://www.epa.gov/air/urbanair/6poll.html>]